Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara Temple, Kerala

Ref: ChatGpt

1. Location, Address & Contact

- **Location:** Taliparamba (Taliparamba town), Kannur District, Kerala
- **Address:**
  Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara Temple
  Taliparamba, Kannur – 670141
  Kerala, India
- **Phone:** +91 460 220 2220 (Temple Office – may vary, advisable to reconfirm)

2. How to Reach

- **By Air:**
  Kannur International Airport (~40 km)
- **By Rail:**
  Kannur Railway Station (~22 km)
  Payyannur Railway Station (~28 km)
- **By Road:**
  Well connected by KSRTC and private buses from Kannur, Kasaragod, Payyannur, and other towns.

3. Greatness / Significance of the Temple

- One of the **most ancient and revered Shiva temples in Kerala.**
- Known as **"Dakshina Kashi" (Varanasi of the South).**
- The Shiva Linga here is believed to be:
  - Installed by **Lord Parashurama**
  - Worshipped by **Lord Rama during his return from Lanka**
- Devotees believe:
  - Darshan removes sins and grants peace and prosperity.
  - Powerful for relief from karmic burdens and spiritual upliftment.

4. Legends and History

- According to legend:
  - **Three Shiva Lingas** were brought by Parashurama from Kailasa.
  - One was installed here at Taliparamba.
- Another belief:
  - Originally worshipped by **Sage Agastya**.
- The temple has references in ancient Kerala history and has been patronized by **Kolathiri Rajas**.
- Temple traditions are extremely strict and ancient.

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5. Architecture of the Temple

- Classic **Kerala temple architecture**:
  - Copper-plated roof
  - Spacious **Nalambalam (inner courtyard)**
  - Beautiful wooden carvings
- The **Sanctum (Sreekovil)** is circular (typical Kerala style)
- Temple tank (Theertham) nearby used for rituals
- Strong emphasis on **tantric traditions**

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6. Main Deity

- **Lord Shiva (Rajarajeshwara)**
  - In the form of a **Shiva Linga**
  - Considered highly powerful and ancient

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7. Sub-Deities

- Goddess **Parvathi**
- Lord **Ganesha**
- Lord **Ayyappa**
- Lord **Subrahmanya**
- Chandikeswara
- Other minor deities within the complex

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8. Daily Rituals and Poojas

Typical schedule (may vary slightly):

- **Nirmalyam**
- **Abhishekam**
- **Usha Pooja**
- **Ethruthu Pooja**
- **Ucha Pooja**
- **Deeparadhana**
- **Athazha Pooja**

Important Note

- Unlike many temples, **Abhishekam is not performed directly by devotees**.
- Devotees offer items, but rituals are strictly done by priests.

Indicative Charges (subject to change)

- Archana: ₹20 – ₹50
- Special offerings: ₹100 – ₹1000+
- Ghee, oil, and other offerings accepted

(*Exact rates change frequently; temple counter provides latest details*)

9. Special Poojas and Rituals

- **Rudrabhishekam**
- **Mrityunjaya Homam**
- **Bhagya Sooktham**
- **Pushpanjali**
- **Oil lamp offerings (Deepam)**

Charges typically range from ₹100 to ₹3000+ depending on the ritual.

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10. Festivals

- **Mahashivaratri** – Grand celebrations
- **Thiruvathira**
- **Karkidaka Vavu Bali**
- Annual temple festival with traditional Kerala rituals

Festivals attract thousands of devotees.

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11. Facilities for Devotees

- Prasadam counters
- Clean temple premises
- Drinking water
- Parking facilities
- Basic rest areas

Accommodation

- Limited temple guest facilities
- More options available in Taliparamba and Kannur

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12. Donation Information

- Donations can be made:
  - At temple counters
  - Via Devaswom office

(*Bank account / UPI details are generally not publicly shared; enquire at temple office*)

13. Nearby Temples

- **Kottiyoor Temple** (~65 km)
- **Odathil Palli Shiva Temple**
- **Madayikavu Bhagavathy Temple**
- **Parassinikkadavu Muthappan Temple** (~20 km)

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14. Other Tourist Attractions Nearby

- **Aralam Wildlife Sanctuary**
- **Dharmadam Island**
- **St. Angelo Fort (Kannur Fort)**
- **Muzhappilangad Drive-in Beach**

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15. Nearby Budget Hotels

In Taliparamba & Kannur:

- Hotel Kalyan Residency
- Hotel Asokam Beach Resort (Kannur)
- Hotel Blue Nile
- Various lodges and budget stays in Taliparamba town

(Room tariffs approx: ₹800 – ₹2500)

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16. Important Do's and Don'ts

- Strict **dress code**:
  - Men: Mundu (no shirts inside sanctum)
  - Women: Traditional attire preferred
- Non-Hindus may not be allowed inside (as per temple rules)
- Maintain silence and discipline
- Photography is restricted inside

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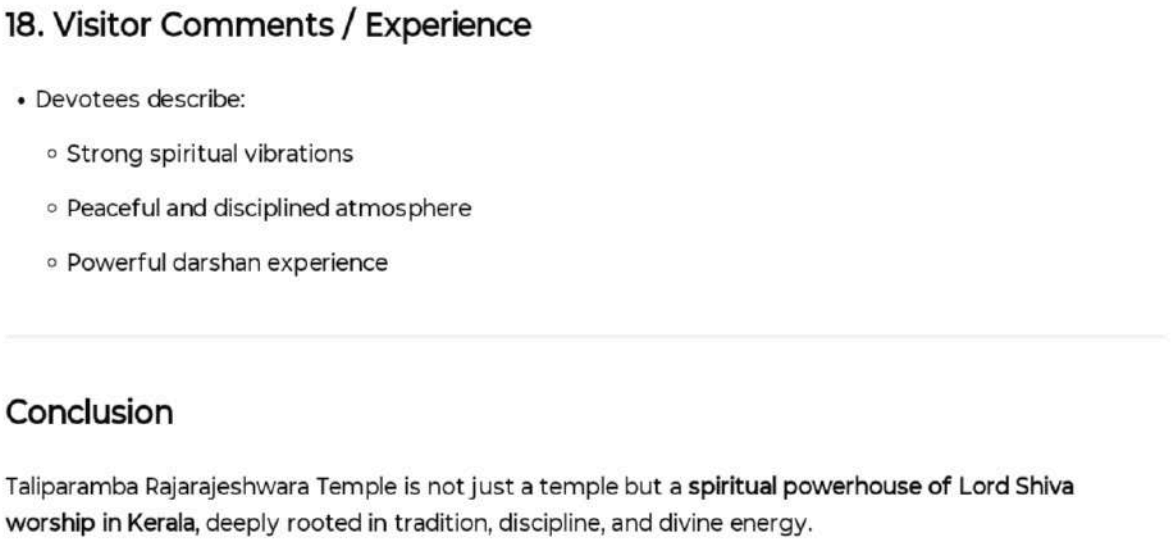
17. Special Features / Unique Practices

- Temple follows **very strict and ancient rituals**
- One of the few temples where:
  - Devotees **cannot perform abhishekam directly**
- Highly revered for **tantric worship traditions**


18. Visitor Comments / Experience
• Devotees describe:
◦ Strong spiritual vibrations
◦ Peaceful and disciplined atmosphere
◦ Powerful darshan experience
Conclusion
Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara Temple is not just a temple but a spiritual powerhouse of Lord Shiva worship in Kerala, deeply rooted in tradition, discipline, and divine energy.

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Ref: Google Gemini

The **Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara Temple** is one of the most significant Shiva temples in Kerala, renowned for its ancient traditions and unique spiritual energy. Below is the detailed information you requested.

1. Location and Accessibility

- **Address:** Temple Road, Taliparamba, Kannur District, Kerala - 670141.
- **Phone:** +91 460 220 3457
- **How to Get There:**
    - **By Air:** Kannur International Airport (CNN) is approximately 36 km away.
    - **By Rail:** The nearest major station is **Kannur (Central)** (~20 km). Closer local stations include Kannapuram (8.6 km) and Payangadi (11.8 km).
    - **By Road:** Located on NH-66. Regular buses are available from Kannur town and Kasaragod to Taliparamba Municipal Bus Stand (1.2 km from the temple).

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2. Greatness and Spiritual Significance

This temple is considered one of the **108 ancient Shiva temples** of Kerala. It is unique because it lacks a flagstaff (*Kodimaram*), which is standard in most Kerala temples, signifying its supreme status—the "King of Kings" (Rajarajeshwara). Historically, any disputes regarding temple rituals in Kerala were brought here for a final decision.

3. History and Legends

- **Origin:** Legend states the Shiva Linga was installed by **Lord Parashurama**.
- **The Three Lingas:** It is believed that Goddess Parvati gave three Shiva Lingas to King Mahendra. Two were installed at other locations, but the third, most sacred one, was installed here.
- **Tipu Sultan's Invasion:** The temple was historically targeted during Tipu Sultan's campaigns, but local lore claims the deity's power protected the main sanctum from total destruction.

4. Architecture and Deities

- **Main Deity:** Lord Shiva, worshipped as **Rajarajeshwara** (the Supreme Emperor).
- **Architecture:** A classic example of the **Kerala style**, featuring a two-tiered rectangular *Sreekovil* (sanctum) roofed with copper sheets and topped with a golden *Kalasham*.
- **New Addition:** The temple grounds now feature a **14-foot bronze idol** of Lord Shiva, one of the tallest in India.
- **Sub-deities:** Include Ganesha, Dakshinamurthy, and Goddess Parvati (worshipped behind the main sanctum).

5. Rituals, Timings, and Offerings

Daily Timings

- **Morning:** 4:45 AM – 12:00 PM
- **Evening:** 5:00 PM – 8:30 PM
- **Note for Women:** Traditionally, women are only allowed inside the inner sanctum after the **Athazha Pooja (approx. 7:15 PM – 8:00 PM)**. It is believed that at this time, Shiva is in a peaceful state with Parvati.

Important Offerings (Sevas)

Ponkudam	The most famous offering; placing a golden pot.
Neyyamruthu	Offering of Ghee for the deity.
Thulasi Kadir	Only Tulsi leaves are used for Archana here (no flowers).

Note: For current 2026 pooja charges, it is best to check the counter directly or the official Devaswom board as rates are subject to annual revisions.

6. Festivals and Facilities

- **Festivals:** Unlike other Kerala temples, there is no annual festival (*Utsavam*). However, **Maha Shivaratri** and **Vishu** are celebrated with great fervor.
- **Dress Code:** Strict traditional attire is required. Men must wear a *Mundu* (no shirts or vests); women must wear Saris or Salwar Kameez.
- **Facilities:** Basic amenities like a cloakroom and resting areas are available. The "Chira" (temple pond) is nearby for cleansing rituals.

7. Donation Info

Donations can be made through the **TTK Devaswom Board**.

- **Bank:** State Bank of India (SBI)
- **Entity Name:** TTK Devaswom Sri Rajarajeswara Temple Taliparamba
- **Online Portal:** Often accessible via the SBI "Religious Entities" donation portal.

8. Nearby Attractions and Hotels

Nearby Temples

- **Trichambaram Sri Krishna Temple:** Famous for its mural paintings.
- **Kanjirangad Vaidyanatha Temple:** Dedicated to Shiva as the "Lord of Physicians."
- **Parassinikadavu Muthappan Madappura:** A unique temple where dogs are considered sacred (~10 km).

Budget Hotels

- **Elite Residency:** (~1.5 km) Affordable and close to the town center.
- **V A Residency:** (~1.9 km) Reliable budget option.
- **KTDC Folk Land:** A government-run facility for a comfortable stay.

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More info on architecture, legends, rituals, poojas and their charges:

1. Architectural Nuances

The temple is a quintessential example of **Kerala style** but with unique deviations that interest scholars of temple architecture:

- **The Sreekovil (Sanctum):** It is a two-tiered rectangular structure. The roof is clad in copper sheets and tapers to a **Golden Kalasham**.

- **The Four Doors:** While the sanctum has four doors, only the **East and South** doors are opened for rituals. The East door reveals the *Jyothirlingam*.
- **Namaskara Mandapam:** This is a platform in front of the sanctum. Unusually, devotees are **prohibited** from stepping onto it. Tradition holds that Lord Rama prostrated here after the war in Lanka, and out of respect for his presence, the area is kept vacant.
- **The Bronze Shiva:** A recent architectural highlight is the **14-foot bronze idol** of Lord Shiva, currently the largest of its kind in India, weighing approximately 4,200 kg.
- **Absence of Kodimaram:** Unlike almost all other Kerala temples, there is no flagstaff. This signifies that the deity is a "Chakravarthi" (Emperor) who does not need to be "summoned" for festivals.

2. Expanded Legends

- **The Three Jyothirlingams:** Legend says Parvati received three divine Lingas. Three kings—Maandhata, Muchukunda, and Satasoman—each installed one at this exact spot in different *Yugas*. The first two dissolved into the earth, concentrating their power into the third, which is the one worshipped today.
- **Shakti Peetham:** It is regarded as one of the 108 Shakti Peethams. It is believed that **Sati's head** fell here during Shiva's *Tandavam*.
- **The Pregnancy Tradition:** A long-standing local belief suggests that pregnant women should visit three temples in a specific order:
    1. **Rajarajeshwara:** For the child to have high status.
    2. **Trichambaram (Krishna):** For good nature.
    3. **Kanjirangad (Vaidyanatha):** For long life and health.

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3. Daily Rituals & Timings

The temple follows a strict Vedic schedule:

- **05:00 AM:** *Nada Thurakkal* (Opening of the doors)
- **06:30 AM – 07:10 AM:** *Neyyabhishekam* & *Natravat Pooja*
- **08:10 AM – 08:30 AM:** *Panthiradi Pooja*
- **09:30 AM – 10:45 AM:** *Ucha Pooja* (Noon offering)
- **06:00 PM:** *Deeparadhana* (Evening lamp ritual)
- **07:10 PM – 08:30 PM:** *Athazha Pooja* (Night offering - Women are allowed inside only after this begins).

4. Special Poojas and Charges (Approximate)

Note: Charges are managed by the TTK Devaswom and can vary slightly by year.

Pooja / Offering	Significance	Approx. Charge (INR)
Ponkudam	Placing a "Golden Pot" (The most vital offering).	~ ₹500 - ₹1,000
Ashwamedha Namaskaram	Highest form of prayer, once reserved for Kings.	~ ₹1,000+
Neyyamruthu	Offering Ghee for the eternal lamp.	~ ₹100 - ₹250
Sahasrakalasham	A rare, elaborate ritual involving 1,000 pots.	Very High (Pre-booked)
Archana (Tulsi)	General prayer (Note: Only Tulsi is used, no flowers).	~ ₹20 - ₹50

5. Festivals

The temple is unique because it **does not have an annual festival (Utsavam)** or a "Pallivetta" (Royal Hunt), as the deity is considered a supreme ruler who stays within his palace.

- **Maha Shivaratri:** The most important day. On this day alone, women are allowed inside from **4:00 PM** onwards (earlier than usual).
- **Vishu:** Celebrated as the Malayali New Year with special *Kani* and rituals.
- **Wednesday:** While not a festival, Wednesday is considered the most auspicious day for *Darshanam* at this specific temple.

Note on Documentation: The "Prasna" (astrological decision-making) performed on a raised platform outside the temple is a great technical detail to include, as it serves as the supreme court for many South Indian temple disputes.

The connection between this temple and the **Trichambaram Krishna Temple** (just 3 km away) is unique; traditionally, it is believed that after the lamps are lit in the evening, the deities "meet," and the rituals at one can influence the other.

The **Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara Temple** is a cornerstone of Kerala's heritage, and its unique rules—like the absence of a festival and the specific timings for women—make it a standout subject for any cultural publication.

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Ref: Wikipedia

Outer wall of Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara temple

Rajarajeshwara temple

The **Rajarajeshwara Temple** is a Hindu temple in Taliparamba, Kannur district, Kerala, India, dedicated to the Hindu deity Shiva. It is one of the 108 Shiva Temples of Kerala and one of the Dwadasha Shivalayam (12 important Shiva temples of ancient Kerala, stretching from Gokarnam to Kanyakumari). It also has a prominent place amongst the numerous Shiva temples in South India.[2] It had the tallest shikhara amongst the temples of its time. The Rajarajeshwara temple has a top of about 90 tonnes.

Legendarily, it was supposedly renovated by Sage Parashurama, long before the Kali Yuga commenced. Several centuries ago, it was renovated by the Mushika (Kolathiri) dynasty kings. This temple was rebuilt into its present form in the early eleventh century. The quadrangular sanctum has a two-tiered pyramidal roof; in front of the sanctum is the *namaskara mandapam*, but the temple has no *kodi maram* (flagstaff), unlike others in Kerala. Only Hindus are permitted to enter.[3]

Legend and history

The Shiva Linga here is believed to be several thousands of years old. Legend has it that Shiva gave 13 sacred Shivalingas to Parvati/Sati to worship.[4] One sage, Maandhata, propitiated Lord Shiva with intense prayers. Shiva was so pleased that he presented one of the Shiva Lingas to him with the injunction that it should be installed only at a place where there was no cremation ground. The sage, after searching all over, found Taliparamba the most sacred spot where he installed the Shiva Linga. After his death the Linga disappeared into the earth.[5] Then his son Muchukunda offered similar prayers to Shiva and got a second Shiva Linga, which too disappeared in course of time. Centuries passed. The third Shiva Linga was handed down to Satasoman, a king of Mushaka Royal Family, who then ruled the region. He was an ardent devotee of Shiva. On the advice of sage Agastya, he prayed to Lord Siva, who granted him the Shiva Linga. The king installed it in the present temple built by him. However, as per many legends associated with the Temple, Agastya Himself installed the Shiva Linga (which is believed as per those legends to be a 'Jyothirlingam').[6]

It is believed that Sri Rama during his victorious return from Lanka stopped here to offer worship to Lord Shiva. In honor of His presence, devotees are not allowed into the *namaskara mandapam* even today.[5]

The temple was attacked and partially destroyed by the Mysorean army when they raided the Temple in the late 1700s. The temple was repaired and reopened 100 years later. The Main Gopuram still remain in ruins

Visitors

- Karnataka's former chief minister Yeddyurappa visited here several times. He donated an elephant to this temple during one of his visits.[7][8]
- Tamil Nadu former chief minister Jayalalithaa had a special relation with this temple.[9][10]
- BJP president Amit Shah[11]

Controversies

In July 2006, Malayalam actress Meera Jasmine, a Christian, was found to have visited the temple despite the fact that non-Hindus are banned from entry. She later apologised and offered to pay money to perform purification rituals

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Ref: rajarajeswaratemple.com

This is the official web site of the temple and gives info in great detail.

Only part of the info is given here (to save space).

Offerings or Vazhipadu:

Ghee in small pots are offered to the presiding deity Shiva and are placed on steps leading to the sanctum. Its called Neyyamrithu in Malayalam language. The custom is that just as kings and emperors are seen only by offering some gifts-kazhchha-the Lord of Taliparamba, who is King of Kings, can be seen only by placing naiamrithu on the sopanam (steps leading to the sanctum). The ghee offered is used for abhisheka and for lighting the lamps in the central shrine. On auspicious days like Mondays, pradosham etc., hundreds of such small naiamrithu pots can be seen placed before the deity.

Vazhipadu

No	Offering	Rate (in Rs/-)
1	Neyyamruth (Ghee Pots)	10.00
2	Pushpanjali	10.00
3	Neyy Vilakku (Ghee Lamp)	20.00
4	Ponninkudam (Gold Pot)	1600.00
5	Vellikkudam (Silver Pot)	1200.00
6	Swarnapattam (Big)	30.00

7	Swarna Thali (Gold Pendent)	20.00
8	Swayamvara pushpanjali	70.00
9	Aswamedha Namaskaram	3000.00
10	Yama Namaskaram	4000.00
11	Sreerudra Namaskaram	2500.00
11	Niramala (other expenses additional)	2000.00
12	Thulasi Mala(Thulasi Garland)	20.00
12	Thumba Mala(Thumba Garland)	40.00
13	Thrimadhuram	25.00
14	Deepasthambham	1500.00
15	Chuttuvilakku	1500.00
16	Theertham	2.00
17	Swarna Prathima	25.00
18	Velli Prathima	15.00
19	Sadhanam Konduvannu Oppikkal (for self bringing offerings)	25.00
20	Choroonu	200.00
21	Thiruvappam	3500.00
22	Aanayoottu	2500.00
23	Nakshathra oot/Annadanam (for one day)	8000.00
24	Sadhya- annadhanam	35000.00
25	Videography charges	500.00

Contact:

Address:

Executive Officer

Taliparamba Rajarajeswara Temple

Taliparamaba – 670 141

Kannur District, Kerala

Office Phone: 0460 2203457(10 am to 5 pm)

Temple Enquiry phone: 0460 230 0326

Guest House mob : 9188450027

Mob: 94 00 50 4027

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Bank details:

Bank : SBI

Branch : Taliparamba

A/c No :31605898586

Account name : Executive Officer

IFSC : SBIN0001000

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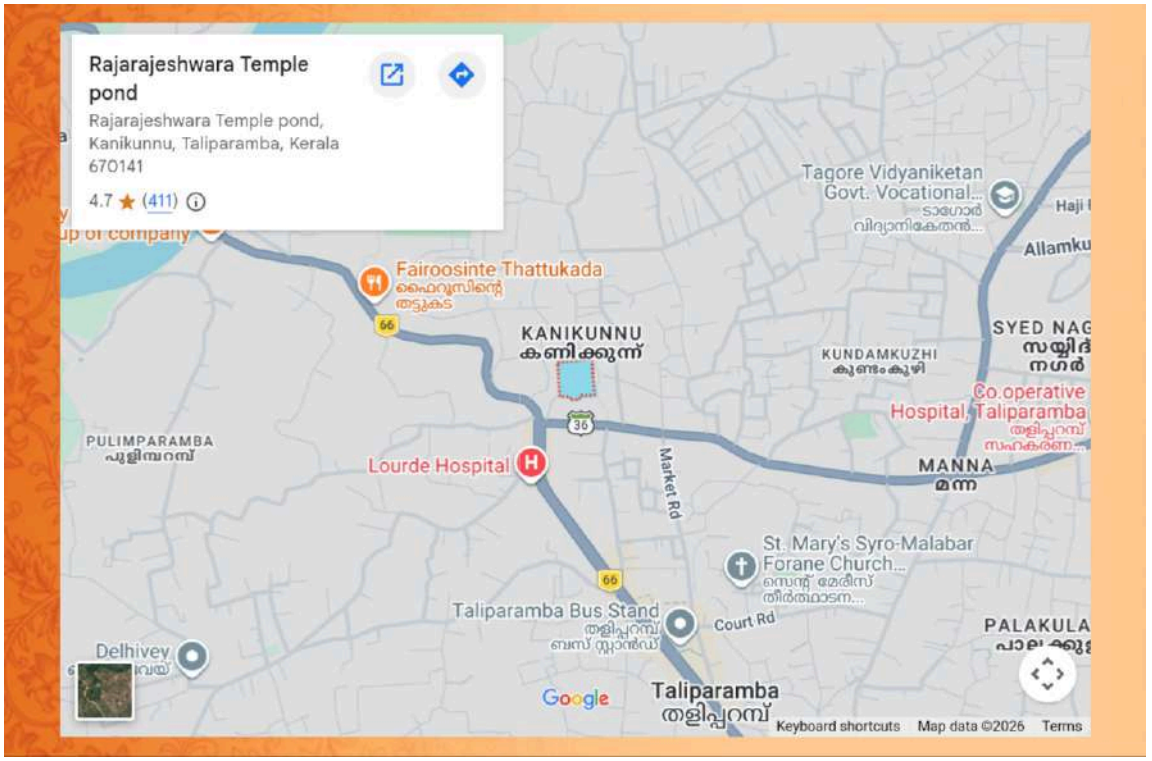

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Photos

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OM NAMAH SHIVAYA

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Videos

Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara temple…vlog (24 min):

https://youtu.be/WCCKukLsEbg?si=T2_80VCPcMsKPRvz

Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara temple…Teerthayatra (30 min):

https://youtu.be/-NRnZMzXYM0?si=heXbq-uAFNVgdO9S

Mystery of Rajarajeshwara temple (5 min):

https://youtu.be/aJdFNfEE2c0?si=koX4vq_xEdLZa99a

Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara temple…Parichaya (Kannada)..(9 min):

https://youtu.be/_wx6oOlUMcs?si=-jdMoEeW-UEszmCW

5 shocking facts about Taliparamba Rajarajeshwara temple (0.57 min):

https://youtu.be/1q2R9tPD98M?si=D0pA52jMMh0Z_FHB

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About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore,as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at Archive.org.

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
April 8, 2026

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